



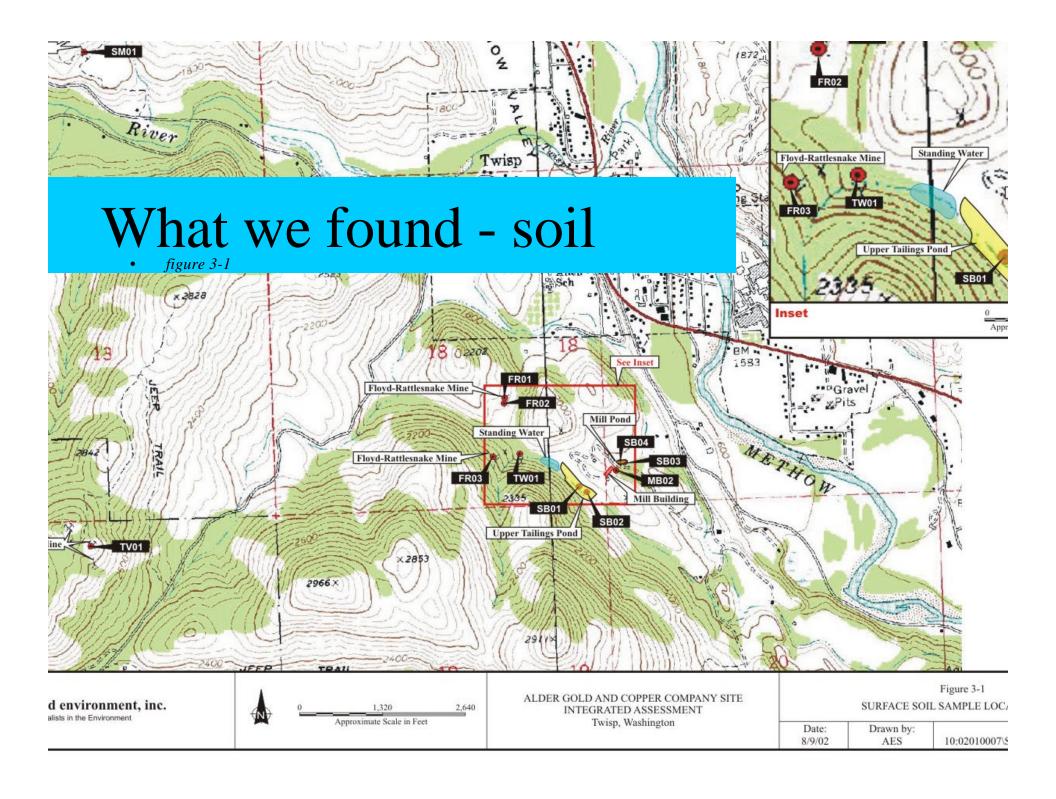
Next steps

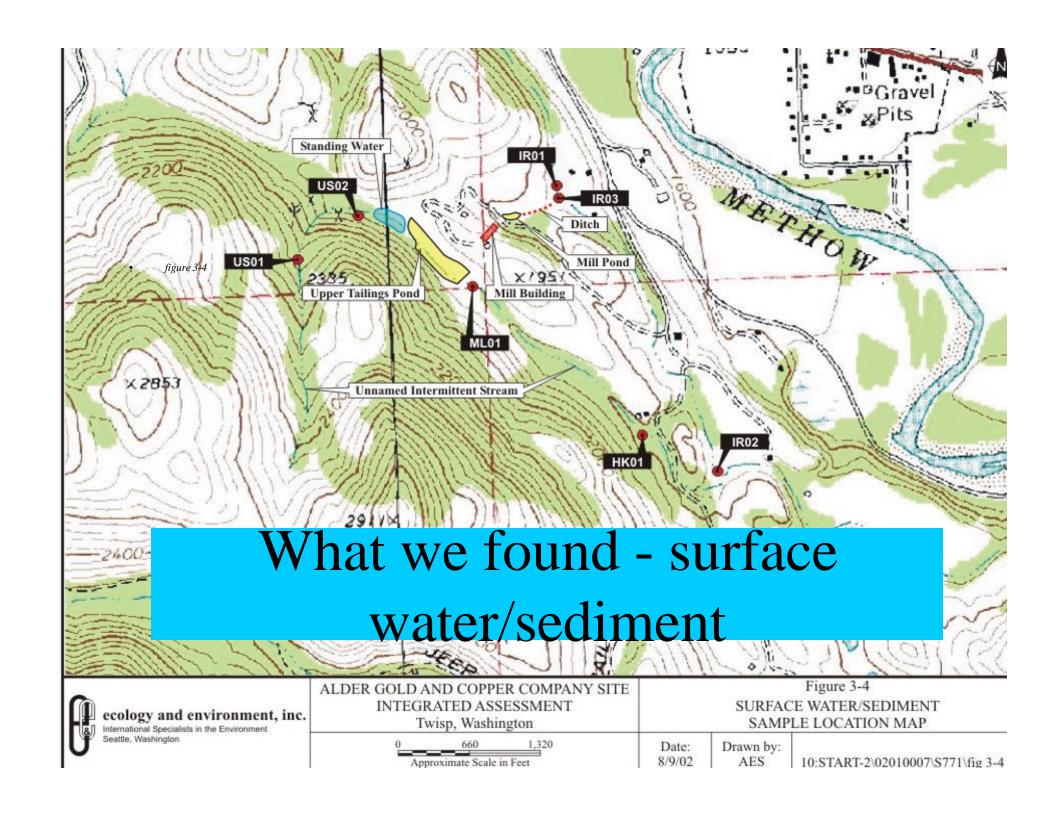
- Fencing of Upper Tailings Pond
- Demolition of Mill
- Relocation of Mill Pond to a repository to prevent direct contact figure 3-3

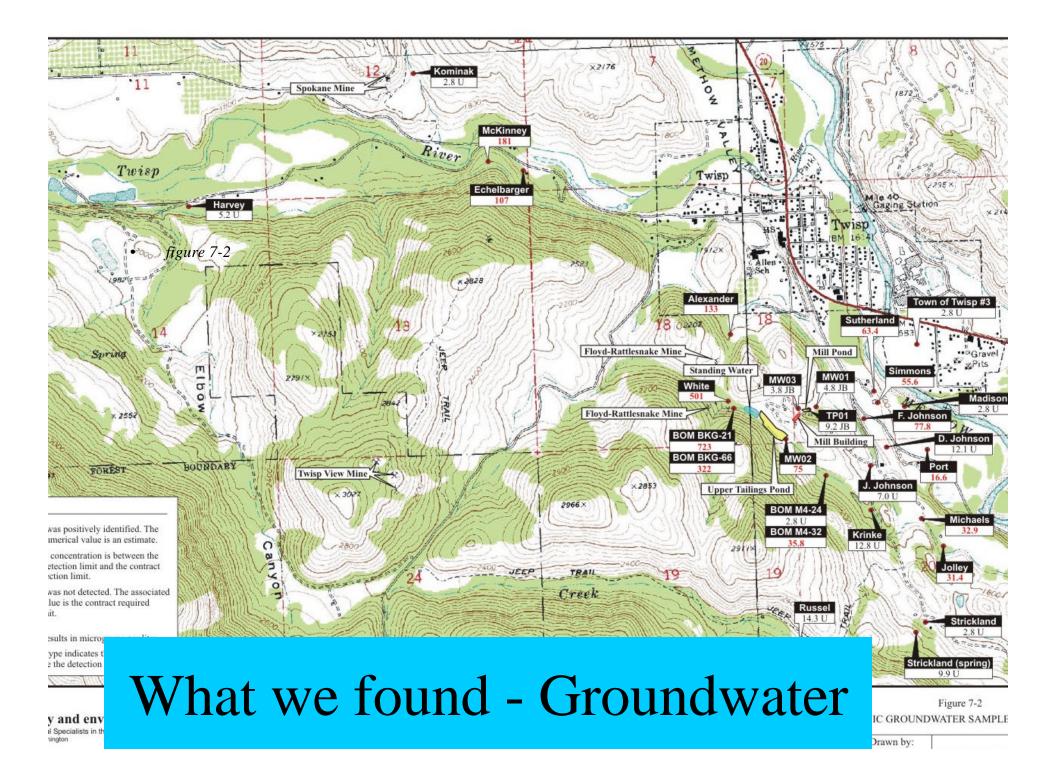
Groundwater Investigation

What was investigated

- Wells used for drinking water
- Groundwater above and below the Alder
 Mill upper and lower tailings ponds
- Soil from the Alder Mill and nearby mines (Floyd Rattlesnake, Twisp View, Spokane)
- Leachability of tailings piles. figure 3-1







Conclusions

The limited sampling performed by EPA during 2002 indicates the following:

- The geology of the area appears to have a high naturally occurring background level of arsenic.
- The Alder Mill does not currently appear to be a significant contributor of arsenic to the groundwater.

Where to go from here

- Draft EPA Assessment is out for Agency and public review.
- Arsenic from whatever source can pose a health risk. Bottled water and POU treatment are ways to reduce this risk.
- Superfund cannot be used for background related phenomenon; Bottled water will end Oct. 30.
- OCHD/WDOH can help you find a lab to test your water to see if arsenic is elevated in your well and answer general questions about POU treatment and arsenic health risks.

For more information:

- http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/sites/alder
- Sean Sheldrake EPA 1-800-424-4372
- Doug Hale OCHD (509) 422-7141

